

REMARKS

Consideration and entry of the above amendments are respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claims 2-14 are pending in the Application, all of which have been allowed.

Applicant has amended claim 3 to correct minor informalities. In particular, the word “a” is changed to “the” to provide proper antecedent basis. This merely corrects informalities and thus Applicant respectfully submits that it is appropriate to enter with this amendment after allowance.

Applicant has amended claim 11 to depend from claim 4, which in turn depends from claim 2. Since both claims 2 and 4 have been allowed, claim 11 remains allowable. This amendment merely introduces claim 4 as an intermediate claim to claim 11 rather than being dependent directly from base claim 2. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment is appropriate to be entered with this amendment after allowance.

Applicant has amended claim 14 so that it follows more closely its original intended meaning. Claim 14 remains dependent from allowed claim 2 and thus remains allowable. Furthermore, the amendments to claim 14 are fully supported by the original disclosure. For example, the Examiner’s attention is directed to original claim 15 which contains similar language and to pages 23 and 24 and Figure 4 of the original disclosure. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claim 4 are appropriate to enter with this amendment after allowance.

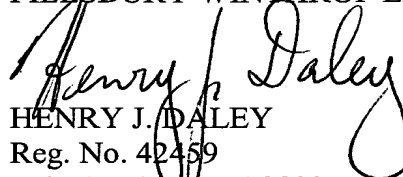
The Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicant’s representative at the below-noted number if there are any issues raised concerning entry of this amendment after allowance.

TAKATO -- 10/633,622
Client/Matter: 061069-0305399

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry J. Daley", is written over the printed name and registration information.

HENRY J. DALEY

Reg. No. 42459

Tel. No. 202.775.9832

Fax No. 703 905-2500

Date: November 8, 2004
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000